

BOSTON HEADQUARTERS

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www.nclc.org

October 27, 2017

Ms. Marlene Dortch Office of the Secretary Federal Communications Commission 445 12th Street, SW, Room TW-A325 Washington, DC 20554

In the Matter of: Nomination for Universal Service Administrative Company Board of Directors, CC Docket Nos. 97-21 and 96-45

Dear Ms. Dortch,

Enclosed is the National Consumer Law Center's letter of nomination recommending Ellis Jacobs to serve as the low-income representative on the Universal Service Administrative Company Board of Directors.

Sincerely,

Olivia Wein Staff Attorney

Deva Wein



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Chairman Ajit Pai Federal Communications Commission 445 12th St., S.W., Room 5-A452 Washington, DC 20554

Re: In the Matter of: Nomination for Universal Service Administrative Company Board of Directors, CC Docket Nos. 97-21 and 96-45

Dear Chairman Pai,

I write to nominate Ellis Jacobs, Senior Attorney at Advocates for Basic Legal Equality, Inc., to the Universal Service Administrative Company (USAC) Board of Directors as the representative for low-income consumers. As his attached resume demonstrates, Mr. Jacobs has a long history of representing low-income individuals and communities in telecommunications matters. He is currently the low-income representative on the USAC Board and in that capacity has done an excellent job of representing the interests of low-income customers while contributing to the overall management and oversight of that organization.

Mr. Jacobs has a long history of working to expand broadband access to low-income consumers. He is committed to ensuring that universal service programs are run in a manner that is sound, efficient and effective.

Sincerely,

Carolyn Carter Deputy Director

Cc: Charles Tyler, Telecommunications Access Policy Division, Wireline Competition Bureau

ELLIS JACOBS

131 E. Davis Street

Yellow Springs, OH 45387

Phone: (937) 535-4419 Fax: (937) 449-8131

Ejacobs@ablelaw.org

BAR ADMISSIONS

Admitted to Ohio and Federal Bars, November 1981

EDUCATION:

University of Dayton School of Law - Dayton, Ohio

J.D. Degree, June 1981

Capital University, UWW - Columbus, Ohio

B.A. 1978

EMPLOYMENT:

ADVOCATES FOR BASIC LEGAL EQUALITY, INC.

Dayton, Ohio Senior Attorney

(December, 2003 – Present)

Utility Regulation, Environmental Law, Voting Rights.

LEGAL AID SOCIETY OF DAYTON, INC.

Dayton, Ohio

Litigation Director/Chief Counsel/ Managing Attorney

(May 1987 – December, 2003)

Utility Regulation and Environmental Law.

CITY OF DAYTON

Dayton, Ohio Magistrate

(September 1985 - May 1987)

Presided over the city's landlord/tenant court, heard a variety of

other cases referred by municipal judges.

MONTGOMERY COUNTY PUBLIC DEFENDERS OFFICE

Dayton, Ohio

Senior Appellate Attorney

(November 1983 - September 1985)

Trial Attorney

(November 1981 - November 1983)

MONTGOMERY COUNTY FAIR HOUSING CENTER Dayton, Ohio (May 1981 - November 1981)
Civil rights litigation, landlord/tenant law.

UNIVERSITY OF DAYTON SCHOOL OF LAW Visiting Professor, Law Clinic Spring 2001, Fall 2003

ANTIOCH UNIVERSITY Visiting Professor, Business Law Spring 2001, Fall 2002

SINCLAIR COMMUNITY COLLEGE Instructor, Business Law 1987

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE Grant Reviewer, Technology Opportunities Program, 2002

RELEVANT EXPERIENCE:

UNIVERSAL SERVICE ADMINISTRATIVE COMPANY BOARD OF DIRECTORS, (2009- Present) Representative of low income customers, member high cost/low income committee.

ATLANTIC FELLOWSHIP IN PUBLIC POLICY
Fellow, Office of Telecommunications (OFTEL),
London, England
(August 2001 – January 2002)
As part of a British Government sponsored fellowship program,
worked and studied at OFTEL, the British equivalent of the FCC.
While working on several projects for OFTEL, researched and
wrote, "British Universal Service Policy in the Era of Mobile
Madness", presented at the Atlantic Fellowship Conference,

TELEPHONE AND TECHNOLOGY ACCESS PROJECT Director (1995 – 2003)

London England, May 2002.

Provided public interest advocacy for the low-income community on telecommunication issues. This included representation in alternative regulation, merger, service quality and prepaid provider cases and involvement in universal service, local competition and minimum service standard rules dockets.

OHIO COMMUNITY COMPUTING CENTER NETWORK Board Member (1995 – 2004) Chair (1995 – 1998)

The OCCN provides support to a network of computer centers in low income communities throughout Ohio, including centers funded as the result of settlements in the Ameritech and Cincinnati Bell Telephone alternative regulation and merger cases.

UNIVERSAL SERVICE ASSISTANCE ADVISORY COMMITTEE

Board Member (1995 – 2006)

Chair (1996 – 1998)

This committee oversaw the implementation of the low-income lifeline program in the Ameritech-Ohio service territory. In 2004 this group merged into "Lifeline Ohio".

COMMUNITY TECHNOLOGY FUND OF OHIO Board Chair (1999 – 2006)

This fund provided grants to help organizations in low-income communities effectively use telecommunications and computer technology. This fund resulted from the settlement of a merger case and was overseen by the Public Utilities Commission of Ohio. It expired in 2006 when it completed oversight of all grants.

SELECTED PUBLICATIONS:

Ellis Jacobs, "Legal Aid's Role in the Fight for Telecommunications and Computer Access in Low-income Communities," Clearinghouse Review, Vol. 37, Number 3, August 2003.

Gabrielle Hammond and Ellis Jacobs, "The Future of Technology in Legal Services: A Time for New Advocacy," Clearinghouse Review, Vol. 37, Number 1-2, May-June 2003.

Ellis Jacobs, "Fighting to Turn the Promise of Universal Telecommunications Technology Service into Reality: The Experience of one Community Organization in Ohio," Georgetown Journal on Poverty Law and Policy, Vol. VIII, Number 1, Winter 2001.

Ellis Jacobs, Cary Williams, "Telecommunications Policy in Ohio: Interventions to Bridge the Digital Divide," Quarterly

Bulletin, National Regulatory Research Institute, Vol. 20, Number 3, Fall/Winter 1999.

Ellis Jacobs, "Expanding Low-Income Communities' Access to Telecommunications Technology," Clearinghouse Review, Vol. 29, Number 3, July 1995.

SELECTED PRESENTATIONS:

"First Do No Harm; Representing Community Organizations," National Legal Aid and Defender Association, San Jose, California, July, 2006.

"Systemic Advocacy in the Digital Age," National Legal Aid and Defender Association, Milwaukee, Wisconsin, November 2002.

"British Universal Service Policy in the Era of Mobile Madness", Atlantic Fellowship in Public Policy Conference, London, England, May, 2002.

"Overcoming the Digital Divide," National Legal Aid and Defender Association, Washington DC, November 2000.

"The Digital Divide and Low Income Communities Access to Technology," Ohio State Legal Services, Columbus Ohio, October 2000.

"Universal Service Advocacy," National Legal Aid and Defender Association, Houston, Texas, April 2000.

"Advancing the Public Interest before State Utility Commissions," Community Technology Centers' Network, Boston, Massachusetts, June, 1996.

"Lessons from the World of Telecommunications," National Consumer Law Center, Washington, D.C., February, 1996.

"National and Local Telecommunications Agendas: Advancing the Public Interest in a Changing Environment," Center for Neighborhood Technology, Chicago, Illinois, November, 1995.